News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sunday, February 16, 2003 7:45 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

**CONTACT:** Rosanne Pack (302) 659-2210

(302) 270-9143

PROPANE GAS USERS WARNED TO MONITOR OUTSIDE VENTS

Because of the possibility of high snow drifts, propane gas distributors say that those who

heat with gas or have gas appliances should check the outside vents regularly as long as it is

snowing or as long as snow might be blowing and drifting against houses. If drifting snow covers

vents, there is a danger of carbon monoxide backing up into homes.

Some fire companies report that they have received calls of carbon monoxide alarms

going off in homes. Investigation showed that outside vents for stoves or appliances were

blocked with snow. Accumulation of fumes could lead to carbon monoxide poisoning and to

backed up fumes causing heaters to shut down. Vents should be dug out repeatedly as long as

drifting snow threatens to block them.

Those with questions about preventing gas vent blockage and carbon monoxide

poisoning should contact their utility's emergency numbers.

--- END ---